City of Elgin
Public Relations Committee Meeting
Elgin Community Center
Tuesday Sept. 29, 1992; 7:00 PM

AGENDA

1. Presentation and Introduction to Hunaha Park Project. (7:00)

2. Discussion of Community and Economic Benefits (7:30)

3. Comments from the Community (7:45)

4. Recommendation to Elgin City Council on Project (8:00)

5. Other Business (8:10)

6. Adjourn (8:25)

This committee meeting is open to the public. All residents of Elgin and other interested persons are encouraged to attend. If you would like advanced information on the Hunaha Park Project, contact Kevin Cooper at 963-2399 during business hours or 437-6721 evenings.

Oct. 5, 1992

Mayor Spikes and Elgin City Council
900 Alder
Elgin, OR 97827

RE: Recommendation on Hunaha Park Project

Dear Mr. Mayor and Fellow Council Persons:

On Sept. 21, 1992, I conducted a public hearing with the Public/Education Committee on the proposed Hunaha Park Project. The purpose was to inform city residents of the community and economic impacts of the project, to gather comments from the community on the project, and to recommend action to the City Council.

Based on the positive comments and overwhelming support for the project received at the public hearing, on behalf of the community-at-large, I am recommending the city support, pursue funding, encourage development and otherwise act as a partner in the Hunaha Park Project.

The City can and should be involved in both supporting the park development by providing in-kind labor or equipment for the construction of the project as well as targeting improvements to Cedar Street as top community development priorities.

As a follow-up to this recommendation, it would be prudent to schedule a community development hearing to prioritize this project with other projects now being pursued by the city. This would clarify this and other projects and the ranking of priority for each project. This could be done at our next council meeting in November.

I have attached the minutes of the hearing for your review.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Cooper

City of Elgin
Public/Education Committee
Minutes
Sept. 29, 1992

Hunaha Park - Public Hearing

Committee Members Present: Kevin Cooper

City Staff Present: Joe Garlitz

Others Present: Elgin 2010 Committee Members, Terry Smith - Umatilla National Forest Representative, Peter Dobert - Elgin 2010 Consultant, Elgin residents/homeowners living on Cedar Street, other interested residents from the community.

Kevin Called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM. The intent of the meeting was to gather public comments from community residents on the proposed park project and determine what level of support exists for the project.

Terry Smith then described the drawings of the project he had developed and were on display at the meeting. Terry also discussed potential funding from the US Forest Service.

Several comments from those attending were as follows;

- The site of the project was once a city park.

- The initial design is rather crowded and could be modified to make the site more usable.

- Concern over the yard waste used to fill the site in earlier years. Would require some treatment before any construction could begin.

- Several homeowners living on Cedar Street between Hwy 82 and the proposed site voiced concerns over potential assessments to their properties to pay for street improvements. They brought up the fact that the road was a county road, had much traffic for agricultural use outside the city, was the main route to the city's cemetery, and many of the resident homeowners were retired or on fixed incomes.

- There was concern over the "Boat Ramp" as the river is seldom, if ever deep enough for boating. Terry Smith clarified that the boat ramp would be more accurately described as a raft launch. 2010 Committee Members also confirmed that this had been discussed in the project's initial planning stages.

- A question was raised over maintenance of the facility. Joe

Garlitz explained that a caretaker would be hired and paid from the proceeds of the RV rental receipts. Kevin added "some entity would need to take responsibility for long term maintenance and that would probably be the City or the Parks and Recreation District."

- One spot in the proposed park used to have a fishing pond. There was a question if this was a natural spring, if the canal was used to feed the pond, or if it was swampy in that area of the park.

- "The conceptual project drawing showed the bath house in the wrong place. It should be in the middle of the RV Park."

- "Keep the raft launch site as natural as possible"

- "An additional rest room facility could be added to the day use area."

-"This is one of several great things Elgin has going for it."

After the public comment period, the question was asked if the community should pursue the project or what level of support was available from the community. There were several very positive comments which are summarized as follows; .

- The Elgin 2010 Committee has developed a great deal of ideas and it is supported by the community. Additional information is needed about the committee's activities throughout the community.

- The project will help build community pride and a sense of accomplishment.

- A consensus was reached to pursue the project.

- A consensus was also reached that there was overwhelming support for the project.

A discussion followed about the 2010 committee's activities. Several projects were discussed and an open invitation was extended to join the committee's efforts. Meetings are regularly scheduled on the fourth Monday at the Community Center at 7:00 PM. Weekly community information meetings are at Grandma and Grandpa's Restaurant on Mondays at 7:00 AM. All meetings are open to the public.

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.